



گروه پزشکان و کادر پزشکی مدافع حقوق بشر در ایران- اتریش
Medical Professionals for Human Rights in Iran – Austria



Vienna, 09.03.2023

We call for an immediate independent investigation on the death of Javad Roohi in Iranian prison

We demand a full investigation by or report to the UN Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Iran ([FFMI](#)) into the death of 35-year-old [Javad Roohi](#) in Iranian custody after he was arrested for "anti-state protests" and tortured during interrogation.

Roohi died on 31 August 2023 after being transferred to a hospital from Nowshahr Central Jail in Mazandaran province. He had been arrested on 22 September 2022 during protests related to the death of Mahsa Jina Amini and sentenced to death three times in December 2022 for "corruption on earth", "destruction of property and setting fire to a traffic kiosk" and "blasphemy". However, a [video](#) posted on social media showed Roohi just dancing in the street amid the protests.

Javad Roohi, himself a prospective lawyer, remained imprisoned even after Iran's Supreme Court ruled that the charges against him were unfounded. He was severely tortured, according to information from Amnesty International.

We call for the establishment of an independent commission of enquiry to investigate the cause of Mr Roohi's death, but also the consequences of the ill-treatment of countless other protesters in Iranian prisons.

The Roohi case highlights the urgency of holding the Iranian authorities accountable for their excessive use of force against those who raise their voices against oppression.

If the Iranian authorities are allowed to arbitrarily kill, mutilate and torture people without significant consequences, we risk more political prisoners losing their lives and more protesters being subjected to extreme violence in the streets.

We, the two human rights groups in Vienna, join [Amnesty International's call](#) for the exercise of universal jurisdiction over all Iranian authorities who are reasonably suspected of criminal involvement in serious human rights violations such as abduction, torture and lethal violence against demonstrators.

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جامعه دفاع از حقوق بشر در ایران-اتریش

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